



8/24/2006

Steven D. Sherrets Ph.D.  
20917 Plum St  
Elkhorn NE 68022

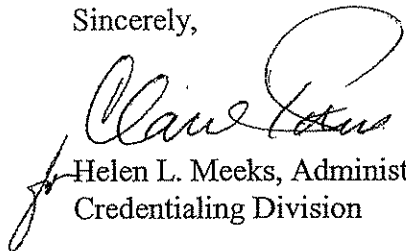
Dear Dr. Sherrets:

This letter is written to notify you that you have completed all terms and conditions of your ~~"Probation" as specified in the Order on Agreed Settlement dated December 27, 2000.~~ Our records were changed August 18, 2006 to reflect the probation completion as being August 18, 2006

Please find enclosed an Original Wall License and a current License Card No. 163 which do not have the term "Probation" imprinted on them. You may discard the licensing documents previously issued to you, which had the term "Probation" imprinted on them.

Please contact Ruth Schuldt, Compliance Monitor, at (402) 471-0313, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Helen L. Meeks, Administrator  
Credentialing Division

HLM/clb

Enclosures: Original Wall License  
License Card No. 163, Exp. Date 01/01/2007

cc: Ruth Schuldt, Compliance Monitor  
Mental Health & Consumer Services

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As of the date of this Order Dr. Sherrets has not complied with the Order On Agreed Settlement dated December 27, 2000, in that he has not, as the date of this order, been examined by a psychologist or psychiatrist approved by the Board of Psychologists to determine if he is a fit person to practice psychology in the State of Nebraska.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

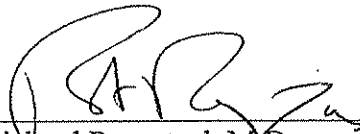
Dr. Sherrets' actions and inactions with respect to the examination requirements in the Agreed Settlement which he signed, constitutes Unprofessional Conduct in violation of Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-148 and as such constitutes grounds for additional discipline pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-147(10).

## ORDER

1. In addition to the sanctions previously imposed, Dr. Sherrets is reprimanded for his conduct with respect to accomplishing his fitness evaluation.
2. Dr. Sherrets is hereby given until July 21, 2002 to accomplish the evaluation. If such an evaluation has not been accomplished and the results of the evaluation submitted to the Board of Psychologists by that date, Dr. Sherrets license will be revoked effective on July 22, 2002.
3. Dr. Sherrets shall pay the cost of this action, if any.

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002.

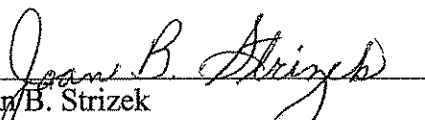


  
Richard Raymond, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

COMES NOW the undersigned and certifies that on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2002, a copy of the foregoing FINDINGS OF FACT CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND ORDER was sent by certified United States mail, postage prepaid, return receipt requested, to Steven D. Sherrets, PhD, 12742 Cryper Avenue, Omaha, NE 68144 and by interagency mail to James Smith, Deputy Attorney General, 2115 State Capitol, Lincoln, Nebraska.



  
Joan B. Strizek  
HHS Regulation & Licensure  
P.O. Box 95007  
Lincoln, NE 68509-5007  
402/471-0384

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
REGULATION AND LICENSURE  
STATE OF NEBRASKA

**FILED**  
2-14-02 JBS  
HEALTH &  
HUMAN SERVICES

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA,

Plaintiff,

v.

STEVEN SHERRETS Ph.D.,

Defendant.

PETITION FOR  
DISCIPLINARY ACTION

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FEB 26 2002

The Plaintiff alleges as follows:

Dept. Health & Human Services  
Regulation & Licensure

1. Jurisdiction is based on Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-150.

2. At all times relevant herein, the Defendant Steven Sherrets, Ph.D., has been the holder of a license which was issued by the Nebraska Department of Health, now the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, to practice psychology. The Defendant's license number is #163.

3. The Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure ("Department") is the agency of the State of Nebraska authorized to enforce the provisions of the Uniform Licensing Law regulating the practice of psychology.

4. The Nebraska Board of Psychologists considered the investigation of this matter and made its recommendation to the Attorney General, which recommendation has been considered. Such matters are privileged pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-168.01(7) and 71-168.01(8).

5. On November 21, 2000, the Plaintiff and the Defendant entered into an Agreed Settlement pursuant to a complaint filed with the Department, against the Defendant. The Agreed Settlement was filed with the Department on December 18, 2000.

6. On December 27, 2000, the Chief Medical Officer issued an Order adopting the Agreed Settlement, including the sanction contained within the Agreed Settlement.

7. Pursuant to the provisions of the Agreed Settlement, the Defendant was required to be examined by a psychologist or psychiatrist approved by the Board of Psychologists ("Board") to determine if the Defendant is a fit person to practice psychology in the State of Nebraska.

8. The Defendant has violated the provisions of the Agreed Settlement by failing to submit to the examination referenced in paragraph 7 above, by failing to act in good faith with respect to submitting to such an examination, and by acting in an obstructionist manner.

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#### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

9. Paragraphs 1 through 8 are incorporated by reference.

10. The Defendant's actions with respect to violation of the examination provision of the Agreed Settlement constitutes "unprofessional conduct" pursuant to the following statutory provisions:

Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-148: "any departure from or failure to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of a profession, or the ethics of the profession or occupation . . .", and "[N]othing in this section shall be construed to exclude determination of additional conduct that is unprofessional by adjudication in individual contested cases."

11. "Unprofessional Conduct" is grounds for discipline, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-147(10).

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that the Chief Medical Officer set this matter for hearing, order appropriate disciplinary action concerning the Defendant's license to practice psychology pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-155, and tax the costs of this action to the Defendant.

STATE OF NEBRASKA,  
Plaintiff,

BY: DON STENBERG, #14023  
Attorney General

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BY: Frances M. Bertsch  
Frances M. Bertsch, #19257  
Assistant Attorney General  
2115 State Capitol  
Lincoln, NE 68509-8920  
Tel: (402) 471-2682

Attorneys for Plaintiff

37-182-23

CRD

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
REGULATION AND LICENSURE  
STATE OF NEBRASKA

STATE OF NEBRASKA ex rel., )  
DON STENBERG, Attorney General, )  
 )  
 )  
Plaintiff, )  
 )  
v. )  
STEVEN SHERRETS, Ph.D., )  
 )  
 )  
Defendant. )

79 - 91001

ORDER ON AGREED SETTLEMENT

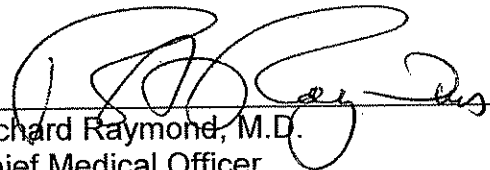
A PETITION FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION, was filed against the Defendant on October 1, 1999. A proposed Agreed Settlement was filed in this matter on December 18, 2000.

ORDER

1. The Agreed Settlement including the sanction is adopted, attached hereto and incorporated by reference.
2. The facts as set out in the petition are taken as true and adopted herein.

DATED this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2000.



  
Richard Raymond, M.D.  
Chief Medical Officer

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DEC 28 2000

Dept. Health & Human Service  
Regulation & Licensure

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
REGULATION AND LICENSURE  
STATE OF NEBRASKA

**FILED**  
12-18-00 JBA  
HEALTH &  
HUMAN SERVICES

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA,	)	79-91001
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	AGREED SETTLEMENT
v.	)	
	)	
STEVEN SHERRETS Ph.D.,	)	
	)	
Defendant.	)	

The Plaintiff and the Defendant in the above-captioned action, in consideration of  
the mutual covenants and agreements contained herein, agree as follows:

1. The Defendant Steven Sherrets was issued license number 163 by the Nebraska Department of Health, now known as the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure ("Department") to practice psychology in the State of Nebraska.

2. Before disciplinary measures may be taken against the Defendant's license, the Defendant is entitled to a hearing as provided by law. The Defendant waives the right to any hearing. The Defendant also waives any right to judicial review of an order by the Chief Medical Officer which approves the terms of this Agreed Settlement.

3. No coercion, threats, or promises, other than those stated herein, were made to the Defendant to induce him to enter into this Agreed Settlement.

4. The Defendant acknowledges that he has read the Petition for Disciplinary Action filed by the Attorney General's Office. The Defendant admits Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 of the Petition for Disciplinary Action. The Defendant neither admits nor denies the remaining allegations of the Petition for Disciplinary Action, but has chosen not to

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DEC 28 2000



contest these allegations at a hearing in order to reach this Agreed Settlement with the Attorney General's Office, subject to the approval of the Chief Medical Officer.

5. The Plaintiff and the Defendant consent to the disposition of the Petition for Disciplinary Action by agreeing that the Department's Chief Medical Officer may enter an order suspending the Defendant's license to practice psychology for ninety (90) days, said suspension to commence ten (10) days after the Chief Medical Officer issues an Order approving the terms of this Agreed Settlement. The final forty-five (45) days of the suspension shall be stayed for twenty-four (24) months, pending successful compliance with the probationary conditions delineated in paragraph 8 herein. If the Defendant successfully completes the period of probation, the final forty-five (45) days of the suspension shall be set aside.

6. Immediately upon receipt of the Order approving this Agreed Settlement, the Defendant shall deliver all documents evidencing licensure in his possession to the Department to be held during the period of suspension.

7. Prior to reinstatement of his license, the Defendant shall be examined by a psychologist or psychiatrist approved by the Board of Psychologists ("the Board") to determine if the Defendant is a fit person to practice psychology in this state. Should the psychiatrist or psychologist determine that the Defendant is not fit to practice psychology in this state, the Defendant's license to practice psychology shall remain suspended until such time as he is determined to be fit to practice psychology.

8. Immediately upon the reinstatement of the Defendant's license to practice psychology, said license shall be placed on probation for a period of twenty-four (24) months, subject to the following terms and conditions:

a. The Defendant shall be issued a license to practice psychology that shall be marked "probationary" in a manner to be determined by the Department.

b. The Defendant shall successfully complete a course in Professional Ethics approved by the Board and provide satisfactory proof of successful completion to the Department. This course is to be completed, and proof of completion to be provided to the Department, within six (6) months of the date of the Order approving the terms of this Agreed Settlement.

c. The Defendant shall not act as an adviser to any pre or post doctoral student seeking any type of psychology or mental health license, registration, or certification in Nebraska or any other State.

d. The Defendant shall provide notice to all current employers, practice partners and associates for whom the Defendant provides psychological services of this disciplinary action against his license. The Defendant shall also notify the licensing authorities in any other states where he has or obtains an active psychology license of this disciplinary action. Notification shall include providing copies of the Petition for Disciplinary Action, this Agreed Settlement, and the Order entered by the Chief Medical Officer approving this Agreed Settlement.

Written confirmation of notification shall be provided by the Defendant to the Department within fifteen (15) days of the entry of the Order by the Chief Medical Officer approving this Agreed Settlement. In the event the Defendant later becomes licensed in another state where he is not currently licensed, he shall provide written confirmation of notification to the Department within fifteen (15) days of his licensure in the other state. The Defendant shall provide written confirmation of notice to any future employer, practice partners, or associates within fifteen (15) days of beginning the new employment or association.

e. The Defendant's practice of psychology shall be supervised by a clinical psychologist who is then both currently licensed and is actively practicing clinical psychology in the State of Nebraska. Such person ("the practice monitor") may be chosen by the Defendant, but any such person must be approved by the Board. Prior to the Board's approval, the practice monitor shall submit a report to the Board acknowledging that he has read the Agreed Settlement and Order placing the Defendant's license on probation, and that the practice monitor understands and agrees to perform the monitoring obligations as set forth herein.

f. The practice monitor will not be required to be present at all times while the Defendant is practicing psychology, but shall be responsible for overall supervision of the Defendant's conduct as a psychologist. The practice monitor shall agree to provide the Department and the Board with quarterly reports regarding the Defendant's work habits and progress throughout the probationary period. The practice monitor shall meet face to face with the Defendant for no less than four (4) hours per month to achieve the supervision contemplated herein.

The practice monitor shall also immediately report to the Department, in writing, any action on the part of the Defendant that he feels violates any law or regulation with respect to the practice of psychology, any provision of this Agreed Settlement, or any action or conduct that the practice monitor feels is not in accordance with the generally accepted standard of psychological practice in Nebraska.

g. The Defendant agrees to cooperate fully with any reasonable request by the practice monitor necessary to implement the supervision contemplated by this Agreed Settlement, including any request to examine records and documents relating to the Defendant's practice of psychology in this state.

h. The Defendant agrees to pay all costs associated with this disciplinary action, including all costs necessary to comply with the terms of this agreement.

i. The Defendant shall obey all state and federal laws and all rules, regulations, and statutes regarding the practice of psychology.

j. The Defendant shall promptly respond to all requests and inquiries by the Department concerning the Defendant's compliance with the terms of this Probation.

k. The Defendant shall submit written notification to the Department within ten (10) days of any change in employment involving the provision of psychological services, residence, or telephone. In the event of a change in employment, the notification shall include all reasons for the change. The Defendant shall notify the Department in writing within ten (10) days in the event he ceases the active practice of psychology in this state.

l. All reports, notices and other documentation requested by the Department shall be provided as directed by the Department. If any particular form of report is provided the Defendant by the Department, the Defendant shall make reports using such form of report.

m. If directed by the Board or Department, the Defendant shall undergo medical, psychological, and/or psychiatric evaluations, at his expense, by a

licensed practitioner or practitioners selected by the Board or Department for the purpose of evaluating his fitness to practice psychology.

n. All reports, notices, or other documentation required to be furnished to the Department shall be furnished by sending them to the Department to the address or addresses indicated by the Department.

o. It is the responsibility of the Defendant to ensure that all reports of the practice monitor are complete and are submitted to the Board in a timely fashion.

9. In the event the Defendant violates any of the terms of his probation, the Chief Medical Officer, after motion by the Attorney General and a hearing, may take further disciplinary action against the Defendant's license to practice psychology as he deems necessary, including revocation of the Defendant's license.

10. Any time period during which the Defendant holds an inactive Nebraska psychology license or does not engage in the practice of psychology in Nebraska shall not serve to reduce the probationary period or satisfy the terms and conditions of probation.

11. Any practice of the profession of psychology during the suspension as set forth herein shall constitute the unauthorized practice of psychology and will result in further disciplinary action being taken against the Defendant's license.

12. If this Agreed Settlement is not approved by the Chief Medical Officer, this Agreed Settlement shall become null and void and will not be admissible for any purpose at any hearing.


13. The Defendant has been represented by Richard M. Jones, attorney at law, and has received advice of counsel prior to entering into this Agreed Settlement.

14. The Attorney General's Office has given notice of this Agreed Settlement to the Board and has received their input in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-161.03.

15. The Attorney General of the State of Nebraska accepts the disposition set out herein as a proper disposition of this case.

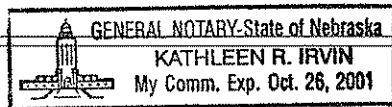
AGREED TO:

BY:

  
Steven Sherrets, Ph.D.,  
Defendant

State of Nebraska )  
County of Douglas ) ss.

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Steven Sherrets, Ph.D., on this 21 day  
of November, 2000.




  
Notary Public

STATE OF NEBRASKA,  
Plaintiff,

BY: DON STENBERG, #14023  
Attorney General


BY:

  
Robert E. Harkins, #20934  
Assistant Attorney General  
2115 State Capitol  
Lincoln, NE 68509-8920  
Tel: (402) 471-2682

Attorneys for Plaintiff

Approved as to form:

BY:

  
Richard M. Jones, #12108  
12165 West Center Road, #52  
Omaha, NE 68144  
Attorney for Defendant

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
REGULATION AND LICENSURE  
STATE OF NEBRASKA

**FILED**

10-1-99 JBS  
HEALTH &  
HUMAN SERVICES

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA,

Plaintiff,

v.

STEVEN SHERRETS Ph.D.,

Defendant.

PETITION FOR  
DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The Plaintiff alleges as follows:

**ALLEGATIONS COMMON TO ALL CAUSES OF ACTION**

1. Jurisdiction is based on Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-150.
2. At all times relevant herein, the Defendant Steven Sherrets, Ph.D., has been the holder of a license which was issued by the Nebraska Department of Health, now the Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure, to practice psychology. The Defendant's license number is #163.
3. The Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure ("Department") is the agency of the State of Nebraska authorized to enforce the provisions of the Uniform Licensing Law regulating the practice of psychology.
4. The Nebraska Board of Examiners of Psychologists considered the investigation of this matter and made its recommendation to the Attorney General, which recommendation has been considered. Such matters are privileged pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-168.01(7) and 71-168.01(8).
5. In early 1992, the Defendant began treating patient K.S. The Defendant provided psychological treatment for K.S. throughout 1992. K.S.'s final treatment session

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Dept. Health & Human Services  
Regulation & Licensure

occurred in late 1992. K.S. also saw the Defendant for a follow-up appointment in June of 1993.

6. The Defendant and K.S. became involved in a romantic and sexual relationship after the cessation of K.S.'s therapy. K.S. and the Defendant lived together in the State of Maine during the relationship.

7. The Defendant, as Patient K.S.'s psychologist, established a position of trust with patient K.S. prior to entering into the sexual relationship.

### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

8. Paragraphs 1 through 7 are incorporated by reference.

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9. The Defendant's actions with respect to patient K.S. constitute "unprofessional conduct" pursuant to the following statutory provisions:

a. Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-148: "any departure from or failure to conform to the standards of acceptable and prevailing practice of a profession, or the ethics of the profession or occupation . . .";

b. Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-148(22): "such other acts as may be defined in rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the board of examiners in the profession of the . . . licensee . . . " Regulations defining unprofessional conduct of Psychologists are codified at Title 172 Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 156. Title 172 Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 156, § 008.04 defines unprofessional conduct to include "engaging in any sexual act with a client or with a person who has been a client. Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to allow for a pre-arranged waiting period."

13. "Unprofessional Conduct" is grounds for discipline, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-147(10).


### **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays that the Chief Medical Officer set this matter for hearing, order appropriate disciplinary action concerning the Defendant's license to

practice psychology pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-155, and tax the costs of this action to the Defendant.

STATE OF NEBRASKA,  
Plaintiff,

BY: DON STENBERG, #14023  
Attorney General

BY: 

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Robert E. Harkins, #20934  
Assistant Attorney General  
2115 State Capitol  
Lincoln, NE 68509-8920  
Tel: (402) 471-2682

Attorneys for Plaintiff